

RESEARCH STUDIES INTO PSYCHODYNAMICS OF WORK THAT WERE MADE AVAILABLE VIA THE CAPES/MEC (BRAZILIAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION) PORTAL BETWEEN 2004 AND 2014: A Bibliometrics Analysis

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ABSTRACT

The aim of the present study is to present the research framework for Psychodynamics of Work (PDW), made available to the academic community during the period between 2004 and 2014, via the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES)/Brazilian Ministry of Education (MEC) Periodicals Portal. This research study is of a descriptive nature with a bibliometric study analysis. This study was based on a total of eighty-four articles, produced by 162 authors, most of who are of female sex, with doctorates, and associated to different educational institutions in Brazil, in particular those from the southeastern region of the country. Most of the publications were produced by means of academic partnerships (author and co-authors), although a large number of these authors had only published one work. The findings also revealed that the scientific production of PDW is still in its very early stages and numbers oscillate a great deal, even though these articles are published in high-quality journals. This study therefore hopes to provide those interested in the subject an approach to PDW that studies mental health from the viewpoint of organization of work.

Key-words: *Research; Psychodynamics of Work; CAPES/MEC Periodicals Portal*

1. INTRODUCTION

Since the 1950s, psychological issues related to work have increasingly become the object of research studies. This area of research gathered further momentum during the 1960s, with the emergence of psychosocial studies about the workplace and the psychology of work, the focus of which was redirected due to the impact that certain aspects of the working environment had on health (*World Health Organization, 2008*).

Changes in the area of work, especially in relation to the introduction of new technologies and management methods, have made it easier to intensify a person's workload, which is reflected in the way that workers now live, become sick and eventually die. New forms of disease have emerged as a result, including: stress, physical and mental fatigue and other signs of work-related ailments (Brazilian Ministry of Health, 2001). The following illustrate problems related to the working environment:

Excessive concerns about achieving results and goals, based on individual competitiveness, together with management practices that do little to encourage healthy socio-professional relationships, results in social disorganization. From these discussions, it was clear that there is a need for engagement, which is often denied or because the necessary resources and conditions are not made available for this purpose (Mendes & Araújo, 2012, p. 91).

Excessive work demands lead to early physical as well as psychological deterioration. In order to maintain their levels of performance and productivity, workers tend to overburden their organisms, thereby becoming more susceptible to a variety of illnesses. Osteomuscular disturbances, injuries due to repetitive movements – RSI, as well as psychological disturbances, are nowadays the main causes of absenteeism from work and early retirement (Lancman & Jardim, 2004). Work either “promotes health or, on the contrary, contributes towards its destabilization and pushes a person towards decompensation” (Dejours, 2011b, p. 164).

In this context, work has a psychological function, because it forms one of the principle cornerstones of a person's character, their network of meanings. Processes such as recognition, gratification, mobilizing a person's intelligence are all linked to the construction of a worker's identity and subjectivity (Lancman, 2011)

Health at work and healthy working environments are some of the most valuable assets that an individual, communities and countries can have. So, occupational health is an important strategy, not only as a way to guarantee the health of employees, but also to make a positive contribution towards ensuring productivity, quality products, work motivation, satisfaction at work and, thus, to the general quality of life of the individual, of society itself (*World Health Organizational*, 1995).

Among the many disciplines that seek to examine the relationship that exists between health/mental illness and work, Psychodynamics of Work, hereafter called PDW, should be highlighted. This theory has been used in most studies that deal with psychological and subjective issues, mobilized within working relationships, the organization of work, since these are recognized as being contributing factors in the construction of this field of research, especially by the Christophe Dejours French School of thought (Lancman & Jardim, 2004). However, such views are also held by other researchers, such as Bueno and Macêdo (2012) and Macêdo (2010).

Based on studies into real work situations, the PDW has formulated new theoretical concepts of fundamental importance, the understanding of which relate to the psychological function of work, its relationship with the organization of work, including: mechanisms of cooperation, individual defense strategies, work-related collectives, visibility, appreciation, recognition, cooperation, psychological suffering, the mobilization of intelligence (Lancman & Jardim, 2004).

It is essential that research work and experiences become more widely known. Thus, PDW researchers can use books, journals and conferences as a means to promote their scientific studies, the last two being the methods generally employed. At the moment, researchers tend to concentrate first on publishing their works in journals, since this ensures that the educational material they produce is given a higher rating within the evaluation system adopted by *sensu stricto* post-graduation courses accredited by CAPES. Thus, understanding the scientific research scenario related to PDW is a way to seek the answer to the following question: what impact has been achieved by the PDW research published over the last eleven years (2004 to 2014), by the Periodicals Portal of the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel CAPES/Brazilian Ministry of Education (MEC)¹?

¹ CAPES/MEC Periodicals Portal - The Periodicals Portal was officially launched on November 11, 2000, at the same time as virtual libraries were being created and when publishers began the process to digitalize their archive material. The initial content of the Portal, included 1,419 (one thousand four hundred and nineteen) periodicals, nine databases covering all areas of knowledge. This reference framework included: *Biological Abstracts*; *CAB Abstracts*; *Compendex*; *Econlit*; *Food Science and Technology Abstracts (FSTA)*; *Georef*; *MLA International Bibliography*; *Sociological Abstracts*; *Web Of Science (WoS)* (CAPES, 2015).

The principle aim of this study is to present an outline of PDW research that was made available to the academic community and society in general, over a period of eleven years (2004 to 2014), via the CAPES/MEC Periodicals Portal. This study included the following issues: to classify periodicals according to the QUALIS² system; provide information about the authors, including: principle author, number of authors per article, the most prolific authors, the region where they are professionally active, their professional qualifications, the highest academic degree attained by the researchers involved and, finally, the gender of the authors.

The CAPES/MEC Periodicals Portal was chosen because it is a virtual library, which allows Brazilian teaching and research institutions to have access to the best international scientific productions, with over thirty six thousand titles, including their full texts, held in their archives, and with one hundred and thirty reference databases. This Portal was created to resolve the inability of Brazilian libraries to access international scientific data. Since it was considered too expensive to update these archives by buying periodicals on a regular basis for each of the universities belonging to the federal educational system, the CAPES Portal was also aimed at reducing regional differences related to access to this type of information in Brazil. This Portal is considered to be an example of a consortium of libraries, unique in the world since it is entirely funded by the Brazilian government. This initiative has also had the greatest impact in its particular field, covering the entire territory of Brazil (CAPES/MEC Periodicals Portal, 2014).

The present research study is justified, firstly, because of the fact that the PDW consists of an approach that is still being constructed. It is the only one of its kind in the country that studies mental health at the workplace in this way. Secondly, because by mapping the scientific material required, taking into account the number of studies that have been produced about PDW, their authors, teaching institutions, which ones are associated with the researchers, the quality of these works, would thereby give the academic community and other interested parties, an up-to-date view on the subject, broadening their horizons for further PDW bibliometric studies, as well as for the Dejours method itself.

In addition, only one other work based on a bibliometric PDW analysis, and written by Oletto, Melo and Lopes (2013), has so far been identified in Brazil. However, several other research studies can be found in other areas of knowledge, such as Administration (Machado & Garcia, 2014; Mendes-da-Silva, Onusic & Giglio, 2013; Ferreira *et al.* 2013), Accounting (Suzart, 2014; Ribeiro, 2014a; Ribeiro, 2014b); Psychology (Barros & Honório, 2012; Cardoso *et al.* 2012; Steil *et al.* 2014; Frenzel & Bardagi, 2014; Oletto; Melo & Lopes, 2013); Nursing (Viera & Sanna, 2013; Gonçalves, Lemos & Tocantins, 2014; Farias & Silva, 2013); and Medicine (Jerez-Roig *et al.* 2014). This fact brings further originality to the current study.

2. WORK PSYCHODYNAMICS AND BIBLIOMETRIC RESEARCH RELATED TO THIS THEME

The PDW is a scientific approach developed in France during the 1980s, by Christophe Dejours, a French doctor, qualified in Psychoanalysis and Psychosomatic Medicine, who was director of the Laboratory of Psychology of Work & Action in Paris. His approach presented a contemporary understanding of the subjectivity of work, because it introduced a new viewpoint about the science of work, by proposing the creation of areas of discussion where employees could have their views heard, express their feelings, as well as the antagonisms that occur in the context of their work and which are the main cause of their pleasure and suffering in the workplace (Dejours, 1992).

As the research study developed, so its relationship with other areas of knowledge advanced, revealing a world rich in experiences; new concepts were produced or included to promote greater understanding about the world of work, including: defence mechanisms, collective defence strategies, creative suffering, pathogenic suffering, specified work, real work, public space, the meaning of work, pleasure, sublimation, symbolic resonance, alienation, - mental, social and cultural -, identity, judgment, recognition – of usefulness, esthetics (Uchida, 2007).

During the research process undertaken to identify bibliometric studies related to PDW which have been published in scientific journals, one of the articles that emerged was written by Oletto, Melo and Lopes and published in 2013. These authors carried out research to construct the identity, analysis of scientific works published in the field of Administration, involving studies related to the theme of pleasure and pain in the

² QUALIS is a set of procedures used by CAPES to stratify the quality of intellectual works produced by post-graduate programs. The periodicals are classified according to areas being evaluated and are up-dated annually. These vehicles are rated according to quality – A1, being the highest ranking; A2 ; B1; B2; B3; B4; B5; C – equals a zero rating (CAPES, 2015).

workplace. These articles are found on the CD-ROMS of the National Meeting of the Association of Post-graduates for the period of 2000 to 2010. The variables analyzed were as follows: scientific content, most-cited authors and conclusions reached in respect of studies analyzed. Of the 7,966 (seven thousand nine hundred and sixty) articles analyzed, twenty-six of these were related to pleasure and suffering at work. The vast majority of these studies were produced during the period of 2006, 2007 and 2009. Christophe Dejours was the author most often cited as a reference in the works analyzed. The scientific content of these articles showed that feelings of pleasure and suffering at work are related to a series of hybrid factors which, depending on the subjectivity of each one, can produce pathogenic effects.

Although it does not come under the heading of bibliometrics, another study, of a descriptive character and related to PDW, was carried out by Barros and Honório (2012). These authors carried out a survey on the scientific output in Brazil about experiences of pleasure and suffering at work, based on articles published by the principle journals in the country, between 1999/2011. Fifty articles were analyzed, forty-seven of which were published by the Meetings of the National Association of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Administration – ENANPAD, two by the National Meeting of Human Resources and Labor Relations (Econtro *Nacional de Pessoas e Relações de Trabalho*) and one that was published in the *Revista de Administracao de Empresas* (Magazine of Business Relationships). From this, it was possible to see that very few scientific papers related to pleasure and suffering in the workplace had been published within the field of administration, and that these numbers varied a good deal. Most of these articles (fifteen) were written in 2009. There was an increase in the number of articles published between 2006 and 2009. However, in the following year (2010), there was a drop of 60% in the number of articles published about pleasure and pain at work. Most of this academic work was produced in the southeastern and southern regions of the country. The survey also showed that there was a balance between articles produced by those working both in the public and the private sectors.

Another study within the field of scientific work involving PDW in Brazil was undertaken by Mendes and Morrone (2012). These authors based their research on the period between 1998 and 2007 and, as their source of references, analyzed the following: doctorate theses, master's degree dissertations available via the CAPES dissertation and theses databank, articles from journals available via the *Scientific Electronic On-line Library*. The aim of their study was to show the advances that had been made by PDW in Brazil, by describing the theoretical trajectory and research undertaken during that period. The analysis of source material makes it possible to see that Brazilian researchers have helped to advance PDW in Brazil; these researchers went beyond the established knowledge of the time, investigating singular issues; their studies encompassing a variety of professions, concentrated mainly in the area of health; the different ways that suffering in the workplace has been given new meaning or has been confronted in daily working life, how these issues have been explored. Thus, Brazil continues to make a significant contribution to this field, by strengthening existing knowledge, offering new concepts, introducing new challenges.

3. METHOD

3.1 Research Framework

The current research study is of a descriptive nature, since it seeks to clarify national PDW research frameworks and/or clinical psychodynamics in the workplace, as idealized by the French professor Cristophe Dejours. For this, a survey was conducted on articles made available to research centers in Brazil and worldwide, as well as to other interested parties, via the CAPES/MEC Periodicals Portal, during the period between 2004 and 2014.

This framework is supported by the teaching of Gil (2011, p.28), who states that “the main objective” of descriptive research “is to describe the characteristics of a certain segment of the population or phenomenon or even to establish relationships between variables”. In the case of the present research study, it was decided to study only those articles published in the Portuguese language.

This research also serves as a bibliometric analysis. Bibliometrics is a tool that is based on statistical analysis, the objective of which is to make a survey, to produce different treatment indicators, information management, and knowledge. One of the concepts most often used in relation to this tool is the one proposed by Pritchard (1969), for whom Bibliometric refers to every study that attempts to quantify the processes of written communication. Thus, Bibliometrics can be understood as a quantitative and statistical technique used to measure production indicators, the dissemination of scientific knowledge. This method enables indicators to be constructed that can form the basis of an evaluation of the production of a certain theme, making it possible to carry out a quantitative analysis of the most relevant publications (Guedes & Borschiver, 2005; Tague-Sutcliffe, 1992).

3.2 Data collection procedures

In order to conduct a survey of scientific articles on the subject of PDW, available via the CAPES/MEC Periodicals Portal, the following key-words were used: “Psychodynamics of Work”; “Clinical Psychodynamics” and “Psychodynamic Analyses of Work”. Once these key-words had been used, only scientific articles published between 2004 and 2014 were selected for research.

A total of 132 scientific articles were selected for the purpose of this survey. After reading the titles and abstracts, it was clear that this selection would have to be further narrowed down, since the results obtained via the Portal, included articles that contained the keywords used, but which were not relevant to the theme of this research study. Thus, a total of sixty articles were discarded which included the word psychodynamic; however, this referred to other situations unrelated to psychodynamics of work as applied to the organization of work and the mental health of workers.

Once the original list of articles had been amended, it was decided to use two further keywords related to PDW: “Work Recognition” and “Experiencing Pain and Suffering”, issues widely covered in the works by Dejours (1993), (2011a), (2011b) (2011c). Thus, a final number of eighty-four articles, written in Portuguese, were selected for the period in question, from the existing articles on PDW available via the CAPES/MEC Periodicals Portal.

3.3 Data analysis procedures

The next stage of the research was to organize and analyze these articles, so as to establish their main characteristics, already mentioned in the introductory section and hereby reaffirmed. These are as follows: total number of articles published; number of articles published over the eleven-year period surveyed; the names of the journals which published these articles; number of articles published per journal; present classification of journals contained in the QUALIS system; names of the authors, including: principal author, number of authors per article, the most prolific researchers, region where these authors are professionally active, their academic qualifications, authors who have produced the greatest number of works and, finally, the gender of the authors of the articles concerned.

Information about the authors of the articles was checked by means of their individual curriculums registered by the Lattes Platform information system, for the period between December 2014 and January 2015. Most of these curriculums had been up-dated at the time this survey was carried out.

The PAS *Statistics* 18 software, more commonly known as PASW, was used to analyze the data, which had originally been organized on a spread sheet. This software made it possible to use a descriptive statistics for the data, so that the characteristics of each publication, their authors and selected articles could be examined. Furthermore, in order to complete the analysis, the Word Cloud technique was used, thereby making it possible to identify which words appeared more frequently in relation to the theme of the articles available via the Portal during the period of research.

Since this is a descriptive research study, of a bibliometric nature, the main purpose of which is to present an outline of PDW research in Brazil, available to interested parties via the CAPES/MEC Portal, this analysis established the frequency, the number of articles published, in percentages, by cross-tabulating the different characteristics of these publications.

4. FINDINGS

4.1 Articles researched: theme and profile

Figure 1 shows the Word Cloud that was created based on the words that appear more frequently in the titles of the articles analyzed in this study. This was obtained using online tagul software.

Figure 1

Table 1 was prepared to enable an analysis and better understanding to be made of the research findings.

Table 1

It may be observed that ‘work’ was the word most frequently used in the titles of the articles analyzed. This was followed by the words: health, psychodynamics, suffering, the worker and suffering, which were also repeated a significant number of times.

With regards to the annual distribution of the number of articles published on the subject of PDW during the last eleven years (2004 to 2014), via the CAPES/MEC Periodicals Portal, it was noted that: a total of eight-four articles were published during the period analyzed, averaging 7,63 articles per year.

Table 2

It may be observed that during the period between 2008 and 2012, the number of articles published was higher in relation to other years. It may also be seen that researchers showed an increased interest in the subject of PDW between 2008 (five articles) and 2009 (seventeen articles). Furthermore, it should be noted that the greatest number of articles (eighteen) was published in 2011. Compared to 2011, a fifty per cent reduction was noted in the number of articles published in 2012. Fewer articles were published in 2014 than in 2005. This shows that, during the period examined, the number of articles published on the subject of PDW varied a great deal.

Another aspect analyzed, was the number of articles published in journals which took into account the stratification of quality established by the QUALIS ranking system. The evaluation procedure was undertaken based on the quality of the information dissemination vehicles used, that is to say, scientific journals (Brazil, 2015). Most of the publications were ranked as Stratum A2 (twenty-eight articles), followed by B1 (twenty-three) and B2 (twenty). Of the total of eighty four published articles, only two were printed in journals which had a higher ranking, A1. It should also be said that three published articles ranked at stratum B3, and three at B4. Even with a zero rating, several authors sent their research work to journals that had no indexing (N/I).

The survey showed that 2009 and 2011 were the only years when the dissemination of PDW research studies achieved the highest ranking, A1, under the QUALIS system. Publications were ranked at stratum A2 for every year analyzed, from 2004 to 2014, with the highest numbers occurring in 2006, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012. The dissemination of publications ranked as stratum B1, occurred mainly between 2006 and 2012, with the exception of 2008, and the greatest number of articles were produced in 2011. During the period analyzed, the years between 2004 and 2009 were notable for having the greatest number of articles published in journals ranked at stratum B2. With regards to ranking B3, articles were only disseminated during two years: 2009 and 2011, and the authors only published their work in the two years of 2009 and 2011. Publications were ranked as B4 in 2010 and 2011. Even with a zero rating, five works were published in 2009, 2012 and 2013 in journals ranked as N/I according to the QUALIS system. In summary, most of these research papers were published in 2009 (seventeen articles) and 2011 (eighteen articles).

Table 3 shows the number of articles per journal that were published during the period being analyzed (2004 to 2014). The total of eighty four articles included in this research, were published in forty journals, which gives an average of 2.10 articles per journal.

Table 3

The journals that published the greatest number of articles, based on the theme of PDW, were as follows: *Ciência e Saúde Coletiva* (Collective Health & Science); *Produção* (Production); *Psychology: Ciência e Profissão* (Science & Profession); *Psicologia & Sociedade* (Psychology & Society); *Revista Aletheia e Revista de Administração Contemporânea* (RAC) (the Aletheia and Contemporary Administration magazines). Together these represent 38% of the total number of publications. The remaining journals - *Interface: Comunicação Saúde Educação* (Interface – Communication Health Education); *Psicologia em Estudo* (The Study of Psychology); *Revista da Escola de Enfermagem da USP* (The Magazine of the University of São Paulo School of Nursing); *Trabalho, Educação e Saúde* (Work, Education & Health) – all helped to disseminate, promote and improve the subject matter.

Data obtained indicated that most of the articles published (82.52 %) were produced in partnerships formed between the researchers. Forty-two articles were produced by a team of two authors – representing half of all the publications reviewed – fifteen were written by teams of three authors; ten articles were prepared by a quartet of authors; and four articles were produced by a quintet of authors.

With regards to the profile of the authors concerned, the majority of the researchers consisted of teachers (79.01%), who are based mainly in the southeastern region (35.80%) and southern (19.75%) regions of the country. The northeastern region came in fourth place with 6.79%. It should be mentioned that the Northern region was represented by 1.85% of teacher researchers whose articles had been published via the CAPES/MRC Periodicals Portal as analyzed.

Figure 2 shows the teaching institutions which maintain institutional links with the principal PDW authors.

Figure 2

With regards to the institutions to which each author is affiliated, this was considered to be the institution registered in their Lattes curriculums, which were consulted during the period between December 2014 and January 2015. It should be said that it was not possible to locate the teaching institution for 22% of the authors who had published articles about PDW, because they had failed to register their curriculums.

Among these institutions, the ones with the highest representation of authors include: The Osvaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ), with 10%; followed by the University of São Paulo (USP), with 8 %; the University of Brasilia (UnB) came in third place with 5%. The State University of Londrina (UEL) also came high on the list with 4% of all the authors who had published works in this field. Each of the following represented 3% of the authors: the Fluminense Federal University (UFF) and the Federal University of the State of Paraíba (UFPB).

Female authors were more numerous than male authors in every region of Brazil; of the total of 162 authors involved in this survey, 126 are women, who represent 77.8% of the total number of authors. The Southeast (32.7%) and southern region (21%) produced the highest number of female authors. The Central-west region had the third highest number of female authors. As regards male authors, there were none representing the northern region of Brazil. The largest number of researchers came from the southeastern region of the country.

Table 4 includes the names of the most prolific PDW researchers during the period surveyed.

Table 4

The list of the most prolific authors totaled nineteen authors. Ana Magnólia Bezerra Mendes was the author with the largest number of publications, a total of eight. She is followed by Selma Lacman with six published articles; Álvaro Roberto Crespo Merlo had five publications; Milton Athayde and Julia Trevisan Martins had four publications each. They are followed by Sarita Brazão Vieira, Maria Lúcia do Carmo Cruz Robazzi and Laerte Idal Sznelwar, each one with three articles. The remaining authors who are part of the most productive group, composed of eleven people, had each published two articles. It should be mentioned that most of the authors (71.29) had published only one article.

4.2 Profile of the authors with the highest academic levels

Table 5 shows how the articles published during the period of research were distributed, taking into account the higher educational background of leader authors.

Table 5

Most of the authors with the highest academic levels (69.0%) have Ph.D. post-graduate courses, *stricto sensu* masters degree, since 36.2% of them had already completed at least one post-graduate internship. They are followed by authors holding master's degrees (29, 8%). It was noted that there was only one author with a degree, which makes it possible to infer that PDW scientific production is concentrated in master's and doctorate degree programs.

The most prominent author in terms of number of publications, as the leader author on the list, was Júlia Trevisan Martins, with four articles. Laerte Idal Sznelwar was second on the list, with three publications. They were followed by Ana Magnólia Bezerra Mendes, Edil Ferreira da Silva and Marcelo Augusto Finazzi Santos, with two publications each. The top PDW researchers worked in partnerships, since the authors of 84.52% of the articles only came top of the list on one occasion.

With regards the analysis made of articles by gender, for journals qualified under the QUALIS system, it was shown that there was a vast predominance of female writers as opposed to male writers, in stratas A1, A2, B1, B4 and those not indexed (N/I) under the QUALIS ranking system. Male writers had a higher output in stratas B2 and B3; however, the number of articles produced is irrelevant, since the male writers in B2 published eleven articles as opposed to nine by the female writers, and in B3 published two articles while the female writers only produced one.

In the case of the analysis of the distribution of articles in the QUALIS ranking system, based on the authors with the highest standards of degrees, our findings show that 69.05% of these authors have a Ph.D, while

29.76% have a master's degree. Evaluating the production of those holding doctorates, according to the QUALIS ranking system, our findings show that the following rankings represent the majority of authors: A2, (21.43%), B1 (17.86%) and B2 (16,66%). Those holding a master's degree with the highest number of articles were classified according to the following rankings: A2 (11.90%), B1 (8.33%) and B2 (7.14%). This comparison between production distribution and doctorate and master's degrees shows that a higher number of articles were produced by the first in relation to the second. The similarities in the production sequence are also worth noting, where both those with doctorates and master's degrees, seek to publish their articles in journals which have the highest rankings. Finally, the only two articles about PDW included in the A1 ranking were written by authors holding Ph.D.s

5. DISCUSSION ON FINDINGS OBTAINED

These findings show, as can be seen by the Word Cloud, the consistency that exists between these research studies and the objectives of PDW: to investigate the relationship between work and mental health. Research on this theme goes beyond merely understanding the damaging effects that work can have on health. They also examine the favorable effects that work can have on health. The aim was to better understand how "the same type of work, depending on how it is organized, can become a force of destruction, or on the contrary, can build health" (Dejours, 2007, p. 16).

When examining the number of articles published per year, it was clear to see that these numbers oscillate a great deal. These figures could be explained by the level of interest shown by researchers in investigating the subject of PDW, or even by the way their scientific production is directed. Merlo and Mendes (2009) carried out an exploratory study to examine the use of psychodynamics of work when approached as a theoretical methodology of research and action. Basing their studies on the period between 1996 and 2009, they identified seventy-nine articles available on the database of the *Scientific Electronic Library Online - Scielo Brazil* – and the Electronic Periodicals on Psychology (*Periódicos Eletrônicos em Psicologia*) – PePSIC, which means that an average of 5.28 articles were published per annum. The current research study, although using a different data base source, also referred to the same data bases used by Merlo and Mendes (2009), which established that 7.64 articles were published per year. This makes it possible to infer that there has been a slight increase in the number of articles being produced, when comparing both periods.

When analyzing the volume of articles published per year and via QUALIS/CAPES, it was seen that the articles available via the CAPES/MEC Periodicals Portals, achieved a good ranking within the system, since twenty-eight articles (33%) are classified in journals ranked as A2; twenty-three (27%) as B1 and twenty (24%) as B2. That is to say, 84% of the articles dealing with PDW were published in journals which had a high ranking. It is important to note that the number of high-quality scientific articles published during the period analyzed, can be considered to be very low, since over a period of eleven years only two articles were published in journals ranked at A1. It can also be seen that the number of scientific articles available to researchers via the CAPES/MRC Periodicals Portal, which are classified on the lower rankings of the QUALIS system (B4, B5 and Not Indexed or N/I) represents 10% of the total number. Just to give one example of this, it should be underlined that, in eleven years, not one article available via the Portal was ranked as a B5.

The findings obtained in relation to the number of articles published, per journal, show that several different types of journals have published PDW research material over the last eleven years, which indicate that this subject is of a multi-disciplinary nature. Our analysis shows that the subject matter is being researched by professionals representing different fields, such as: psychology, medicine, occupational therapy, nursing and obstetrics, administrations and others.

When considering the findings related to articles published by several authors, it was clear that most of the researchers had only published one article on the subject. One of the reasons for single publications is that clinical-researchers, when carrying out their work sessions, as proposed by Dejours, need to mobilize their own subjectivity. Not everyone feels comfortable when undertaking clinical work, because they can become affected emotionally in some way. Molinier explains that "emotion is at the basis of a clinical attitude. [...] Not everyone likes this sort of work, or, not being familiar with clinical work, decide not to practice. Another probable explanation is that the leader authors are associated with a *stricto sensu* post-graduate course and, having concluded their research work, have decided to undertake research in other areas, or have simply abandoned their PDW research studies.

Bueno and Macêdo (2012) undertook a survey into the subject of theses, based on data available from the National Association of Research and Post-Graduate Studies in Psychology (ANPEPP), at the University of Brasília – UnB, and concluded that there were twenty-eight PDW and Clinical Work researchers in Brazil,

eleven from the Federal District of Brasilia, five each from the States of Goias and Rio Grande do Sul, three from the State of Sao Paulo, and one each from the following states: Santa Catarina, Maranhão, Amazonas and Minas Gerais. The findings of our current research study show that the numbers are much higher, since we found 162 researchers who had produced articles related to PDW, although most of these had only published one article on the subject during the period in question.

With regards to the background of the researchers, as regards *teaching* and *regional insertion*, it was seen that most are active in the field of teaching and are associated with teaching institutions located in the southeast region of the country. The findings of Barros and Honório (2012), in an evaluation they undertook in relation to the scientific production on the subject of “experiences of pleasure and suffering at work”, during the period between 1999/2011, confirm the same ranking of academic production according to region: 1st place: the southeast, 2nd place: the south, 3rd place: the central-west, 4th place: the northeast, and 5th place: north.

It is also interesting to note that 20.99% of these authors are not involved in teaching activities. One possible reason for this is that the authors are association with a *stricto sensu* post-graduate course, but involving areas linked directly or indirectly with the mental health of the worker. In other words, these authors decided to pursue the theme, have considered a line of research that involves the subject of a course they may take in the future, but have continued their professional activities outside teaching.

With regards to the findings related to authors by teaching institution, the leaders were FIOCRUZ, the University of São Paulo -USP, the University of Brasilia - UnB and the State University of Londrina - UEL. In the survey undertaken by Barros e Honório (2012), about academic production related to pleasure and suffering in the workplace according to institution (1999/2011), the authors identified the UnB as the institution with the second largest number of publications (90.9%). According to our own survey, the UnB is placed third. At the moment, several research projects are being undertaken in Brazil using PDW as their basis. The Psychodynamic and Clinic of Work Laboratory, at the University of Brasilia (LPTC), is a pioneer in several studies, in this line of research, “with emphasis on the high volume of material produced that is used to analyze their data, adapted from the original method created by Dejours” (Louzada & Oliveira, 2013, p. 31). Even so, the highest number of publications was found to be in the southeastern and southern regions of Brazil.

With regards to the characteristics of the researchers by region and by gender, it was established that most scientific material published via the CAPES/MEC Periodicals Portal was written by women, who are associated with teaching institutions located in the southeastern and southern regions of Brazil, respectively. These findings fully corroborate those established by Mendes and Marrone (2012). PDW is a discipline in the area of psychology. Most of these authors most probably are qualified in this area. According to the Federal Council of Psychology (2013), the majority of those working in the field of Psychology in Brazil are women (89%), or nine in every ten professionals. Research carried out by the Center for Strategic Management and Studies in Science, Technology & Innovation (CGEE) (2010, p.41), showed that “since 2004, Brazilian women now represent the majority of qualified PhD’s in Brazil, making up 51% of the total, which percentage is being maintained”.

Findings related to the number of articles published by leader authors according to the standards of their degrees, showed that the majority had PhD’s and were therefore qualified to undertake high-quality research. According to the CGEE (2010, p. 28), “the number of qualified Ph.D’s in Brazil grew 278% between 1996 and 2008, which equals an average rate of growth of 11.9% per year”. This information effectively confirms the reason why most of these authors hold a Ph.D.

With respect to the number of articles published per author, for leader authors, it was clear that of the nineteen most prolific authors, five were leader authors. Of these, four had published their works as sole authors, while Ana Magnólia Bezerra Mendes had published eight studies, six of which were produced in conjunction with a colleague. It may be said that co-authorships are a positive step, since these enable the authors to provide wider opinions on the subject. In this respect, Lopes and Costa (2012) carried out a study on co-authored bibliographic production in the area of education. They recorded production according to the following categories: works by one author and by co-authorships. In conclusion, they considered collaborative scientific work to be productive, provided that special attention was given to exactness, in relation to the educational nature of co-authorships.

6. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The overall aim of this study was to present an overview of PDW research available to the academic community and society in general via the CAPES/MEC Periodical Portal system. For this, a survey was undertaken of articles related to PDW, written in Portuguese, which were available via this Portal for the period between 2004

and 2014. During this period, eighty-four articles were researched, which equals 7.64 articles per year, making an average of 2.10 articles per journal. This implies that the number of articles is shown to be low, which confirms the findings of research on pleasure and suffering in the workplace, an issue covered by PDW, carried out by Barros and Honório (2012). The journals that published most of the articles on this subject matter were: *Ciência & Saúde Coletiva*; *Produção*; *Psicologia: Ciência e Profissão*.

Considering the reach that the Portal has in providing access to this type of information, it should be said that a great number of people interested in the subject made little use of their publications, which are available in Portuguese, even though these articles are of good to excellent quality, in accordance with their ranking in the QUALIS system. Even though relevant publications, which had a good ranking, were available over this period of eleven years, the number of articles that are published on this subject needs to be increased, especially in stratum A1, since only two articles were found with this ranking during the whole period analyzed.

Since most of these authors have reached the top of their qualification standards (Ph.D.), it was expected that a greater number of high-quality publications would be found during the course of this survey, even though research has shown that most of the articles consulted were published in journals ranked as A2, B1 and B2, which are also of excellent quality. The fact that these magazines took an average of two years to publish an article might well be one of the reasons that can explain the number of articles published (Serra, Fiates & Ferreira, 2008).

The findings of the current research in relation to the number of articles published per year, show that the highest number of articles were published mainly between 2009 and 2011. If we disregard the latter, it may be observed that the highest numbers of publications per year are similar to the findings reaching by Oletto, Melo and Lopes (2013), who stated that 2009 was the year that had the most significant number of articles published, as recorded in the annals of the Meetings of the National Association of Post-graduate Studies in Administration in respect of PDW – pleasure and suffering at work. These authors also highlighted 2006 and 2007 as being notable for the number of articles published on the subject, a fact that was also noted in the current research study.

Following this same line of reasoning, the current survey corroborates in part the findings of Barros and Honório (2012), who state that, during the period between 2006 and 2009, there was an increase in the number of publications on the subject of pleasure and suffering at work. It should be added that this study researched the subject of PDW in general terms, and did not deal solely with the issue of pleasure and suffering in the workplace. A variance in the findings of both studies involves the number of articles published in 2011, the highest number in this survey, with eighteen articles, a year that was not considered to be representative according to the study carried out by Barros and Honório (2012). An interesting fact is that, for both research studies, a significant drop was seen in the number of articles published between 2009 and 2010.

When comparing the findings of the current research with those cited in the theoretical references (Oletto, Melo & Lopes, 2013; Barros & Honório; Mendes & Morrone, 2012), it can be seen that at the moment most of the research into PDW is carried out by researchers located in the southern and southeastern regions of Brazil, followed in number by the central-west region of the country.

With regards to the background of the authors themselves, it was observed that the majority were women with Ph.Ds. Among the most prolific authors are Ana Magnólia Bezerra Mendes, Selma Lancman and Álvaro Roberto Crespo Merlo, in that order. Our findings showed that research into PDW is undertaken mainly by academic partnerships and that a large number of authors had only published a single work during the eleven year period surveyed.

The current research study has provided important additional details about the distribution of articles based on the approach outlined by Dejours, with information by year and by journals classified according to the QUALIS ranking system. By mapping the main editorial vehicles that had published these articles, it was possible to reveal the level of participation of Brazilian authors in adopting the PDW methodology, showing who the leading Brazilian researchers involved in this subject are and where they are located, a matter not normally covered in the bibliometric studies cited in this area of research. Thus, the current study has helped to further develop the subject when compared to other studies in the area, due to the wide-ranging variables analyzed which, until now, have not been investigated from this same perspective.

Taking into account the aims of this descriptive article, statistical inference tests were not employed in this survey. That being the case, it is suggested that future research could include statistical tests, so as to correlate

if publications can be affected by the individual characteristics of the authors, by region, educational qualifications, gender and the average number of articles published. These suggestions could be implemented by using a regression analysis and by applying a comparison test of averages.

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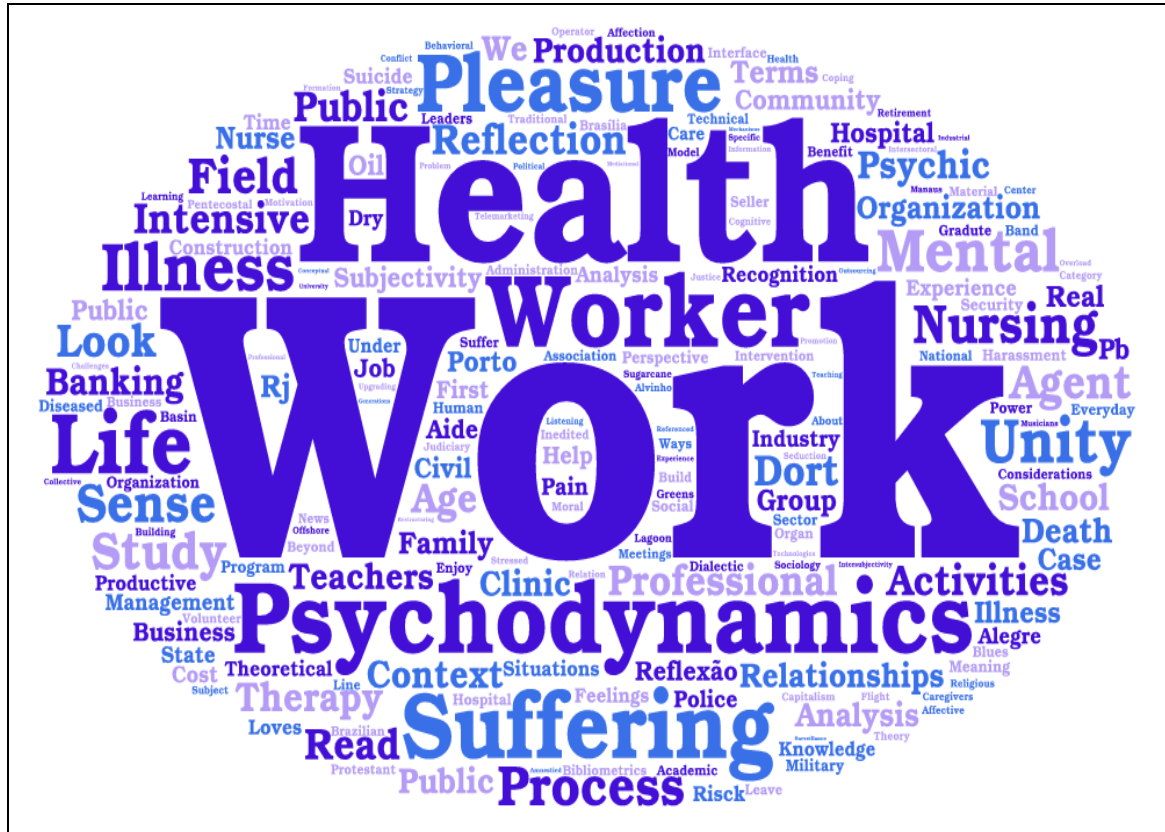


Figure 1 – Cloud of Words
 Source: Prepared by the authors.

Words	Quantidade
Work	68
Health	25
Psychodynamics	17
Suffering	16
Worker, Pleasure	10
Nursing	8
Process, Mental	7
Professionals, Activities, Relationships	5
Therapy, Intensive, Sense, Organization, Life, Production, Subjectivity, Unit, Study, Illness	4

Table 1: Number of times the word appears in the titles of the articles analyzed.
 Source: Prepared by the authors.

Year	Frequency	%	% Accumulated
2004	6	7,14	7,14
2005	1	1,19	8,33
2006	6	7,14	15,48
2007	7	8,33	23,81
2008	5	5,95	29,76
2009	17	20,24	50,00
2010	9	10,71	60,71
2011	18	21,43	82,14
2012	9	10,71	92,86
2013	4	4,76	97,62
2014	2	2,38	100,00
Total	84	100,00	

Table 2: Articles published per year.
 Source: Prepared by the authors.

Journals	Frequency	%	% Accumulated
Ciência & Saúde Coletiva	10	11,90	11,90
Produção, Psicologia: Ciência e Profissão	5	11,90	23,81
Psicologia & Sociedade, Revista Aletheia, Revista de Administração Contemporânea – RAC	4	14,28	38,10
Interface: Comunicação Saúde Educação, Psicologia em Estudo, Revista da Escola de Enfermagem da USP, Trabalho, Educação e Saúde	3	14,28	52,38
Other journals*	40	47,62	100,00
Total	84	100,00	

Table 3: Articles published in journals
 Obs: *Consisting of twenty-seven journals the frequency of which was equal to or less than two publications.

Source: Prepared by the authors.

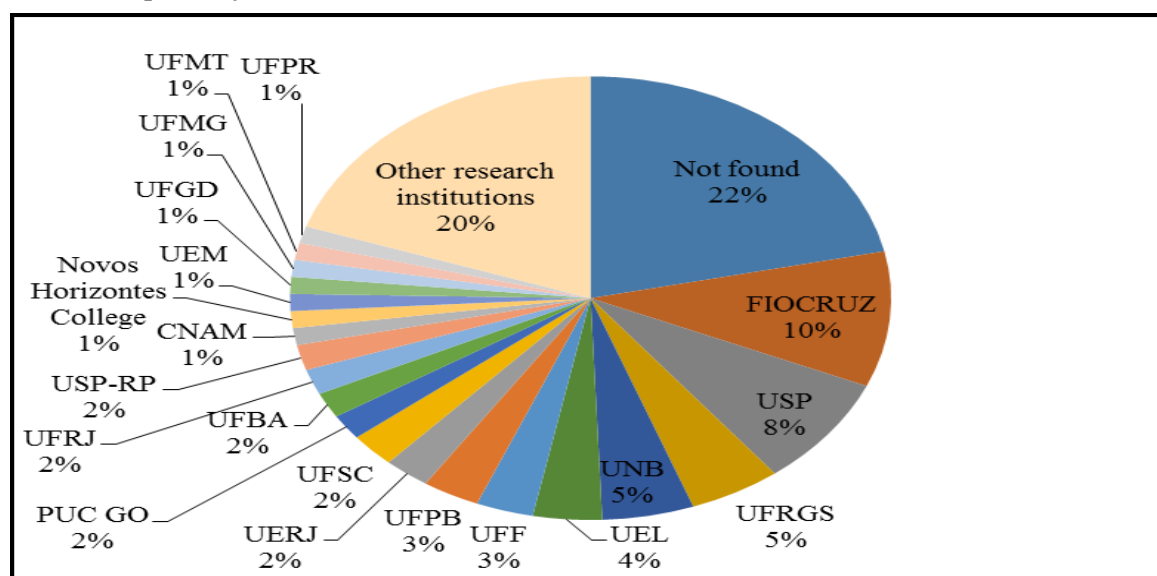


Figure 2: Percentage of authors by teaching institution.
 Source: Prepared by the authors.

Authors	Area of qualification	Quant.	Percentage
Carla Sabrina Xavier Antloga	Psychology	2	0,99%
Denise Alvarez	Visual Programming Programação Visual	2	0,99%
Edil Ferreira Da Silva	Psychology	2	0,99%
Jose Henrique De Faria	Economic Sciences	2	0,99%
José Roberto Montes Heloani	Law	2	0,99%
Jussara Cruz De Brito	Industrial Design	2	0,99%
Marcelo Augusto Finazzi Santos	Administration	2	0,99%
Marcelo Figueiredo	Accounting	2	0,99%
Marcus Vinicius Soares Siqueira	Business Administration	2	0,99%
Maria Cristina Cescatto Bobroff	Nursing & Obsterics	2	0,99%
Seiji Uchida	Psychology	2	0,99%
Laerte Idal Szelwar	Medicine	3	1,49%
Maria Lúcia do Carmo Cruz Robazzi	Nursing & Obstetrics	3	1,49%
Sarita Brazão Vieira	Psychology	3	1,49%
Julia Trevisan Martins	Nursing & Obstetrics	4	1,98%
Milton Athayde	Qualified & Bacheor's Degree in Psychology	4	1,98%
Álvaro Roberto Crespo Merlo	Medicine	5	2,48%
Selma Lancman	Occupational Therapy	6	2,97%
Ana Magnólia Bezerra Mendes	Psychology	8	3,96%
Other authors with one publication each		144	71,29%
Total		202	100,00%

Table 4: Most prolific authors

Source: Prepared by the authors.

Degree	Frequency	%	% Accumulated
Post-doctorate	21	25,0	25,0
Doctorate	37	44,0	69,0
Masters	25	29,8	98,8
Graduate	1	1,2	100,0
Total	84	100,0	

Table 5: Articles published according to the highest academic qualifications held by the principal authors.

Source: Prepared by the authors.